

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
412 N. Live Oak
Rockport, TX 78382

THE ROCK

We Are One Family In Christ



APRIL 2011
Volume 15, Issue 3



Reflections from the Rector

The Story Continues...

The season of Lent and the forty days when we intentionally focus on the story of Jesus and what this story means for us is coming to its end, or better stated its pinnacle. These days have reminded us of who we are without God's help. They have stirred us to imagine how our spirituality would look, had we not experienced God through the Word made flesh and walking among us. We have been reminded of our shared humanity with the generations and our timeless need for the spirit of God to unite and complete us.

We are now drawn to the rest of the story and to our own mysterious reliving of that week we have insightfully named, "holy". We will listen in as Jesus and his disciples make the turn from Bethany to Jerusalem. We will remember the story of the little donkey, the palms, the cheers and hosannas as they enter the "holy city". Their journey moves them across the miles, but also across the spectrum from friendship to confrontation, from affirmation to challenge. They will reserve that upper room for the Passover meal. They will share the familiar stories and symbols of that sacred meal and Jesus will use that evening as an opportunity to model for them a way of remembering essential things.

He grabs a basin of water and a towel and once again humbles himself at their feet. He blesses and breaks the bread. He blesses and pours the wine. These basic things he does with words that unite his life and ministry with them, yes, and even with us, for all time.

Then out into the night they go. He needs time alone, time for prayer, time for strengthening of purpose, time with his Father. His friends are weary from the fullness of these last days yet the night has only begun. Suddenly, there is the flickering of torches through the trees. There are footsteps, commands, a kiss, and in an instant he is taken. Expressing almost a resigned peace, he is led away.

No teller of this timeless story dares to go further. Certainly there is much more, but we must hear and see the rest with a new attentiveness. There is much more to be experienced, but it is experienced uniquely as our spirit and God's spirit are reunited in a mysterious and blessed new way.

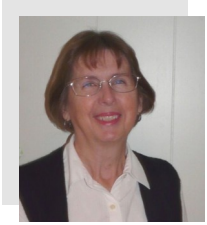
My prayer for us as we approach Holy Week is that we rediscover the deep joy that is ours when our hearts are fixed on the One who gives and sustains our lives. I pray that the opportunities for worship and contemplative prayer will be spiritual resources that draw us near to God. May the awareness of this enlivened relationship guide us in our celebration of a glorious Easter morning and equip us for the days to come.

Wishing all of us a meaningful and joyous experience of God throughout this sacred season,

Fr. Jim Friedel



PARISH BUSINESS



From the Senior Warden

June Gregory

Hello to all,

Lent, or should we call it our observance of the season of Lent is a time period in which I usually felt guilty when I did not keep up with my goal I set for myself. In the latest issue of the Church news, Bishop Lillibridge wrote an article in which he speaks of our walk with God. If you haven't read this article I highly recommend doing so. Bishop Lillibridge shows us (especially me) that we all need to be aware that we are invited to walk along with Him and be with Him in thought, word and deed. Sometimes in my daily routine I tend to get too involved with petty things, forgetting that He is there with me. As was brought up in one of the Sunday Adult Education groups, Lent is a time for reflection and personal spiritual growth. As we are all on the same path, may this special time of additional study and prayer open our eyes to His way.

Late last month, a group of St. Peter's members were involved in a walk called the Relay for Life. Not having participated before, I came as a participant/bystander. The football field and track lanes were full of people participating in this event. This was a fundraiser where all ages could come and show their support for those who are battling cancer or lost someone to cancer. Young and old were there walking, dancing or just visiting this special night. When the stadium lights were dimmed, the quiet made one fully aware of why we were really there. The people who participated were survivors of cancer or ones who had friends or family members who had battled cancer. It was a moving yet joyful time. Even though I was only there for a short while, seeing the participation of so many people reminded me that we are not alone with our struggles. God was there that night! As the Bishop said, God's presence is always with us. May this Lenten observance be a special one for each of you.

Blessings to each of you,
June Gregory, Senior Warden



Treasurer's Notes

Mike Patton, Treasurer
mpatton16@gmail.com

For the two months ended February 28, 2011, operating revenue of \$57,815 exceeded operating expense of \$49,542 by \$8,273. These results are in line with budgeted revenues and expenses and there are no significant budget variations to report.

At the February meeting, St. Peter's Vestry voted to proceed with the purchase of land owned by Mr. David Crowell. This ten acre tract is at the corner of Enterprise and Pearl. An aerial view of the property has been on review in the Parish Hall for several weeks. If purchased, the property will be owned by The Episcopal Church Corporation in West Texas. A legal advisor of the Diocese of West Texas will represent us in the transaction. Both parties have agreed to a purchase price of \$501,450, the 2011 Tax Assessed Value.

In the event we purchase this property, our thoughts will turn to, if and how, we can finance a new Church facility. During the planning of the program, "Speaking of Last Things", I came to realize the important role St. Peter's Church has played in my personal spiritual journey and began to consider how much of my life savings should be donated to future generations at St. Peter's. Such decisions are obviously personal. It is my hope that each of us will give prayerful consideration to St. Peter's during this decision-making process.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Patton

St. Peter's is grateful for a recent Memorial gift to the Building Fund in the name of Dottie Bowen.

MINISTRIES



Angela Rivera

From the Director of Music Ministries

Lent has been very special this year for our Chancel Choir. We have been able to sing a different type of service. You may have noticed we changed all the service music to a more somber tone. We also have the opportunity to sing the beautiful Kyrie and Psalm. We have heard some beautiful voices as they sang the part of the cantor. Also, our anthems have been of a more reflective and quiet nature. This not only enhances this season for the worship services, but also is special for us to get to sing this type of music. We are looking forward to a glorious Easter. Again, thanks to all the willing and able soloists we are fortunate enough to have in our church.



Pam Heidt



*The
Community of Hope International*
"A School for God's Service..." RSB

Last month I mentioned to you that some of us in the Community of Hope would be going down to a retreat at Mustang Island led by the Rev. Sarah Butler Berlin.

Rev. Sarah told us of a church that she had been affiliated with in Colorado. The church membership was, as many are, divided into many committees. The new rector recognized that within most of these committees existed a constant sense of strife and lack of unity. There was that old problem of committee members not being able to envision and act toward the betterment of the whole. Each member of the committee was often making their decisions on what was best for him or herself. The new rector decided to rename each committee by changing the word committee to community.

(Community of Hope International - continued)

Hence the Fellowship Committee became the Fellowship Community. The Pastoral Care Committee became the Pastoral Care Community and so on. I'm not sure whether they renamed the Vestry to the Vestry Community. The magic slowly began to happen as individuals began to accept the fact that they were indeed an important part of a Community of people dedicated to the greater good. They learned that their need to have their personal agenda pushed forward is not the goal. They learned to work with more emphasis on the whole rather than each individual's needs.

I am not relating this story to you because I think this revelation of working within Community is a new concept for the members of St. Peter's. I'm relating this to you because I think that the sense of Community is alive and well at St. Peter's and for that reason our St. Peter's members work together like a smoothly running engine. We are a lovely parade progressing down the street on Community floats. There is always someone to reach out and give a hand to someone running alongside who wants a hand up onto the float. And when someone is lagging behind or not well enough to join the parade, there is always someone available to hold their hand and share the love and encouragement being generated by the Community.

Of course St. Peter's has not always been this way. And perhaps it may not always be the smoothly running engine that it is now. I do believe that if each of us keeps our eye on the ideal of the greater good for this whole Community that is St. Peter's, we will continue to be the very special, unique, giving and loving Community that I call my church family.

Our next Circle of Care Meeting will be on Wednesday, April 13 at 3:00pm in the Parish Hall.

As always, I would like to express my gratitude to those of you who hold up in prayer the others of you who are in need of our prayers and encouragement.

NOW & THEN . . . by Jim Reed

At the Diocesan Council of 1964, St. Peter's was admitted to Parish status after 93 years as a mission. Twenty-five parishioners signed the formal request letter to Bishop Everett Jones. The annual budget proposed by Senior Warden James H. Sorenson was \$11,000. The Reverend Harold Edmondson was the first rector. It is obvious from the few remaining personal letters that the big step of requesting Parish status and leaving the security of being a Diocesan mission required strong leadership and a vision for the future.



Five years later, in September 1969 the first "Parish House" was being constructed. To accomplish this expansion, Bishop Gosnell, through the Church Corporation, loaned the parish \$8,000.

On March 3, 1975 The Reverend Walter Clark began his ministry that lasted 21 years. I recently asked Fr. Clark to comment on the expansion of the church building in the early part of his ministry. He wrote, "--the plant needed expanding. Services were growing. The place was being used more and more by groups inside and outside the church. The sacristy was unworkable except by the hardiest. You could barely get two people into it at one time. There was precious little storage. Likewise the vesting room where people were hanging vestments on the window frame because there was no room in the small closet. Additionally the kitchen was practically non-functional and was using very outdated, even dangerous equipment. Finally, there was no real Rector's office; no place for private conversations. I forget but I think I worked out of Carter House. Almost everyone was in favor of the expansion provided we could raise the money (\$100,000) first. Cam Leonard was the financial driving force behind it all. I don't know how many people he called and/or cajoled, always with a smile. Doug Norell [a church member] was the contractor. He, too, contributed some of his services. As I recall, the expansion did not take all that long after the money was raised. We did not go into debt."

The construction projects that have produced the current configuration numbered at least three and I think there were four. The last expansion took place while Fr. Reese Friedman was our rector. That one added the south half of the Parish Hall and the choir building. Subsequently there was a fifth project to remove the interior walls in the choir building and transform it from Sunday school rooms into a choir room.

More on building projects next month.
Jim Reed

At a meeting on March 29th, St. Peter's vestry unanimously approved a recommendation to the Diocese of West Texas that we move forward with the purchase of the three tracts of property adjacent to Enterprise and Pearl Streets. The vestry expresses its gratitude for all of your comments regarding this important step. Your thoughtfulness in this matter helped inform our decision.

**Thank you,
Jim Friedel**



World Mission



Lynna Thomas

We at St. Peters do so much to reach out to others in our various ministries and yet I am called to continually place in front of us the great needs to bring folks to Christ throughout God's world.

Fishin' for Mission will be upon us before we know it and while a great time is had by all our greater purpose is creating resources for our work around the world. The Diocese of West Texas is known throughout our country as a leader in mission.

This month the thought I want to leave with you is how each of us can be a part of world mission. You don't have to pack your bag as you read this to be vitally involved in what we do. You can choose one of three special ways to be involved.

Pray for One
Pay for One
Be One

Using this simple mantra you can find where you fit and know you are doing God's Work. As Easter approaches and we are so aware of all our Lord did for us, I ask that you take a few minutes and choose one of the above as your own.

Upcoming mission trips for you to know about:
April 12 New Orleans
April 25 Israel
May 21-27 Honduras

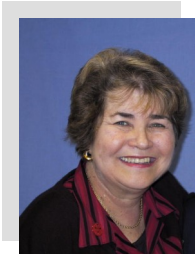
You will be hearing from me throughout the summer and I will hold you in my prayers. Remember we all have God's work to do.

Blessings,
Lynna Thomas
World Mission Representative

AMONG OUR OWN



Lee Guinn's brother, Mark Elton Guinn, died Friday, March 18. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jane and Lee, and the entire Guinn family at this time.



Barbara Patton

**Community of Hope
Prayer List**

We ask that you keep the following persons in your prayers: **Carol Allen, Landon Alexander, Nadia Clark, Corina Domaschk, Nat Gonzalez, Jean Herring, David Herring, John Hill, Dorothy Hooker, Joan Lee, Carole Ann McKitrick, Anna Nix, George Sanders, Al Steffens, Audrey Steffens, J. T. Gonzalez.**

To pray with the Prayer Circle or to request prayer for yourself or your family, call or email Barbara Patton at 790-7775 or barpatton@gmail.com (Please note email address change)



MAY

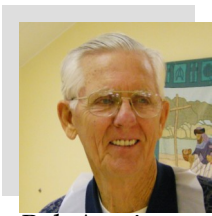
Victoria Kennedy	2
Diana Severino-Saxon	2
Patricia Olenick	4
Les Moor	5
Joey Gill	5
Kimber Clark	5
Robert Dewar	7
Steve Clarkson	7
Justin Lee	9
Nadia Clark	15
Andrew Gardner	17
Wade Callam	21
Bonnie Williams	21
Pete Zamora	21
Jackie Wright	25
Barbara Long	28
Jeff Shatto	28
Vernon Vaughan, Jr.	30



MAY

Mary Lynn & Russell Painton	9
Jean & Jim Albright	13
Martha & Alan Berkebile	17
Pam & Larry Heidt	18
Gay & The Rev. Mac Keeble	19
Vallerie & Tony Farmer	23
Joyce & Steve Clarkson	26
Debra & Tommy Gardner	28

OUTREACH PROGRAMS



Bob Austin

Good Samaritans APRIL 2011

The March 6th talent show at Martha Luigi Auditorium was a great success. The community support and the talented performers who took part were appreciated. The show was well presented and very entertaining. Fr. Jim and Christy Friedel were among the highlights of the show with their duet, "Smile"... very professional! Thanks to all who attended this important fundraiser for Good Sam.

The spring food collection for Good Sam will get underway the week of April 10th to the 17th. Baskets will be located in the parish hall for your contributions to the needy families in our community. The food drives in spring, fall and at Christmas are a great help to the Good Sam pantry. As a reminder, the dates will be included in the Sunday bulletin on both Sundays involved.

The members of St. Peter's Church can take pride in the support they give to both Castaways and Good Samaritans. At Castaways our clothing donations are second only to "The Shop", which are those not specifying a church. At Good Samaritans over on Ann Street, 17 members of our church volunteer to help those in need. God has blessed us in many ways and guides us in our efforts at Good Sam each day.

- Bob Austin



Jo Ann Leonard

Castaways



Roy Allen

We are ever grateful for our faithful members of St. Peters who show up weekly to contribute their time for this ministry. They are an amazing group of friends who work hard to do their part, whether it is pricing, cashiering, working in the shop or loading up items given to us after estate sales. There are many ways to be a part of this group and we invite you to talk to one of us if you have a couple of hours to spare. We are losing our winter Texans for a few months and will miss them terribly.

Our efforts have been rewarding, as we present a check to St. Peter's each month for several thousand dollars. The only way we can continue to do this is to receive your donations of used clothing and household items. We also take everything that is in working order - small and large appliances, suitcases, furniture, books and much, much more. If you haven't ever been inside Castaways - come by some day from 9 to 3 just to see what is there. Our day to man the store is Tuesday, and we also work with the shop on Friday.

There is also a loading zone in the front of the store at the green door. If you have items that are too big for you to move - please call the church office who will put you in touch with Roy Allen who will see if we can help you.

We thank you for your support and prayers,
Jo Ann Leonard



April 7 presentation of Castaways' check for
\$7,157.13

to Fr. Jim by Judy Nibbelink.

Thanks to everyone who helped make this
a great month!



97th Spiritual Retreat
for
Recovering Alcoholics,
Al-Anons & Adult Children of Alcoholics

May 6-8, 2011
at Camp Capers

Registration Deadline April 28
For more information, contact Joyce C. 210-824-7959
or Barbara Baugh 888-824-5387

MINISTRY LEADERS

Vestry Commissions and Ministry Leaders

<u>Sr. Warden</u>	June Gregory
<u>Jr. Warden</u>	John "JD" Debler
<u>Treasurer</u>	Mike Patton
<u>Scribe</u>	Kay Scott

Buildings, Grounds & Equipment Commission:

Garden Guild	John "JD" Debler
Columbarium	Steve Long
	Mike Patton

Christian Formation Commission:

Daughters of the King	Becky Warren
Brotherhood of St. Andrew	Frances Reed
Cursillo	Al Steffens
Library	JoAnn Leonard
Nursery	
Godly Play	Kimber Clark
Adult Education	The Rev. James W. Friedel
Vacation Bible School	Frances Reed

Communications Commission:

The Rock	Joey Gill
Website	Diana Sebastian
History	Woody Woodard
Office Administration Liaison	Judy Nibbelink
Pictorial Directory	Joey Gill
Signs, Advertising, Directories, Bulletin Boards	Les Moor

Evangelism Commission:

Greeters & Name Tags	Pinky Gonzalez
Newcomers	

Planning & Analysis Commission:

Five Year Plan, Bldg Planning and Land Sale or Purchase	Jim Blake
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Parish Care & Fellowship Commission:

Sunday Coffee Hosts	Beth Garner, Kay Scott & Dan Pugh
Comfort Meals	June Gregory
Community of Hope/Pastoral Care	Milby Wade
	Pam Heidt
	Pinky Gonzalez
	Sarah Shugart
	Milby Wade
Circle of Prayer	Barbara Patton
	Yvonne Moor

Stewardship Commission:

Audit Committee	Mike Patton
	Rick Glassett
	Jean Albright
	Walter Bringle
	Mike Patton

Outreach Commission:

Castaways	Becky Warren & Joey Gill
Good Samaritans	Roy Allen & Jo Ann Leonard
Community Table	Bob Austin
	Al Steffens

Worship & Liturgy Commission:

Altar Guild	Rev. James W. Friedel
Acolytes/Lay Readers & Lay Eucharistic Visitors	Sherri Collins
	Vergers: Al Steffens
	Ken McGee
Ushers	Angela Rivera
Director of Music/Choir	

ANNOUNCEMENTS



"We invite you to share in our worship during this holy season."

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Sunday, April 17 Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday
 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 9:15 a.m. Adult Christian Formation
 10:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Palms begins in our Parish Hall
 Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, April 20
 6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing

Thursday, April 21 St. Peter's is open for meditation and prayer from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Liturgy - Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar

Friday, April 22 St. Peter's is open for meditation and prayer from 7:00 a.m. throughout the day.
 7:00 a.m. Good Friday Liturgy
 12 Noon Good Friday Liturgy
 1 - 3 p.m. The Passion Gospels are read at the top of the hr.
 6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross - Outside
 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy

Sat. April 23
 7:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter
 Kindling the New Fire
 Holy Eucharist Rite II

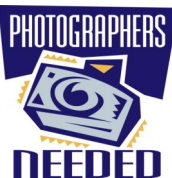
Sunday, April 24
 8:00 a.m. Easter Day Festival Eucharist
 10:30 a.m. Easter Day Festival Eucharist with Flowering of the Cross
 Easter Fellowship and Children's Easter Egg

*Wherever you are on your spiritual journey,
 St. Peter's Episcopal Church welcomes you!
 Come & See!*



SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2011 AT 3:00 PM

Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Rockport, TX will host a reception to honor and celebrate the 60th ordination anniversary of Pastor George Haynes. Members of local congregations are invited to attend and to send personal notes or letters which will be included in a special book to be given to Pastor Haynes & Harriett. Send any correspondence to Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Attn: Michele Scherzer, PO Box 301, Rockport, Texas 78381.



SHUTTERBUGS AMONG US:

We welcome your photos of parish events for use in The Rock and on the bulletin boards! You can email them or bring them by the parish office. Thank you.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES:**

Sundays:	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite I
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite II
Wednesdays:	6:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist and Healing Service

CHURCH STAFF:

Rector:	The Rev. James W. Friedel
Director of Music Ministries:	Angela Rivera
Parish Secretary:	Diana Sebastian
Office Telephone:	361-729-2649
Office Hours:	Monday through Thursday 9:00 am - Noon; 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Friday 9:00 am - Noon
Email:	stpeterbythesea@att.net
Website:	www.stpeterbythesea.com